

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 01341 281254 Z

46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 INT-08 AID-20 COME-00 COA-02

TRSE-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 CG-00

RSR-01 /150 W

----- 042131

R 271743 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8563

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 1341

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MO UR

SUBJECT: JOINT SOVIET- MOROCCAN COMMISSION MEETINGS IN MOSCOW

1. MINISTER OF COMMERCE ABDELKADER BENSLIMANE LEFT MOROCCO MARCH 27 TO ATTEND MEETINGS OF JOINT MOROCCO- USSR COMMISSION IN MOSCOW. BENSLIMANE' S PARTY INCLUDES GHALI BENHIMA, BROTHER OF GOM FOREIGN MINISTER AND CHIEF OF DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN AFFAIRS AT MFA; DAHMANE LAYACHI, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FISHING OFFICE; AND KAMAL BOUHAMD, BENSLIMANE' S CHEF DE CABINET. DELEGATION OF EXPERTS IS ALREADY IN MOSCOW PREPARING AGENDA FOR PLENARY SESSION OF COMMISSION, ACCORDING TO SEMI- OFFICIAL MOROCCAN NEWS AGENCY (MAP).

2. IN AIRPORT STATEMENT, FISHING OFFICE HEAD LAYACHI SPOKE OF POSSIBILITY OF CREATION OF JOINT MOROCCAN- SOVIET FISHING COMPANY. THIS FOLLOWS DEPARTURE RABAT MARCH 27 OF SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER LOPEZ- BRAVO AFTER DAY OF TALKS WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY CENTERED ON MOROCCAN- SPANISH FISHING DISPUTE. POINTED REFERENCES IN PRO- GOVERNMENT PRESS HAVE PRAISED EXEMPLARY WILLINGNESS OF SOVIETS AND FRENCH TO ABIDE BY
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PAGE 02 RABAT 01341 281254 Z

ROYAL DECREE CREATING EXCLUSIVE FISHING SOME INSIDE COASTAL
LIMIT OF 70 MILES.

3. COMMENTARY IN PRO- GOM DAILY " LE MATIN" MARCH 27
SPEAKS OF " BRILLIANT" PROSPECTS FOR MOROCCAN- SOVIET TRADE
IN 1973. COMPOSITION OF DELEGATION AS REPORTED IN PRESS
BEARS OUT STATEMENT OF SOVIET EMBASSY SOURCE TO EMBOFF
MARCH 26 THAT DELIBERATIONS WOULD BE STRICTLY ECONOMIC
IN CHARACTER, WITHOUT MILITARY COMPONENT.
PARKER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973RABAT01341
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730338/aaaaife.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <16-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971230
Subject: JOINT SOVIET- MOROCCAN COMMISSION MEETINGS IN MOSCOW
TAGS: PFOR, MO, UR, n/a
To: AF
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO MADRID
MOSCOW
PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005